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JAN 14 1956

**MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Plans)  
Deputy Director (Support)  
Deputy Director (Intelligence)**

**SUBJECT : Organization of CIA Clandestine Services**

5/7/56  
25X1

*AWB*  
1. Effective <sup>1 July 56</sup> ~~15 August 1955~~, this memorandum supersedes and rescinds DCI memorandum of 15 July 1952 on the above subject, and supersedes such other directives relating to the same subject as may be in conflict herewith. 25X1

2. The CIA mechanism for the conduct of current espionage, counterespionage, and covert operations, and for planning and preparation for performance of such activities in wartime, will be the CIA clandestine services, [redacted]

[redacted] together with related assigned headquarters executive, staff, and operational elements.

3. The clandestine activities of CIA, headquarters and field shall be organized and directed as follows:

a. The Deputy Director (Plans) is the Director's deputy and channel for the direction and control of CIA clandestine activities. In this capacity, DD/P is responsible to the Director for the establishment and direction of the clandestine services organization for the planning, execution, and review of the missions entrusted to the Director under NSCID-5 and NSC 5412/1 and to him is delegated the authority to carry out these functions.

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*SC Liaison Reading*

*CS/DA/Plann*

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b. The clandestine services headquarters organization will consist of such staff elements and such area or other operational divisions as DD/P may establish, through normal Agency procedures and subject to DCI approval, for the execution of his responsibilities. The chief of each such operational division will be DD/P's channel of authority and communication to the overseas or other organization within the assigned jurisdiction of his division.

c. The clandestine services will have overseas:

(1) Such stations as may be established, subject to DCI approval, for the performance and support of clandestine activities. Each chief of station will have full responsibility for matters within his assigned jurisdiction; he will report to and communicate with headquarters through the chief of the operational division having jurisdiction, except as otherwise determined under paragraph 5. b.

(2) Such bases as may be established, subject to DCI approval, subordinate to the above stations. Subject to those exceptions permitted by paragraph 5. e., and with the specific exception of   material, each chief of base will report to and communicate with headquarters through the chief of station having jurisdiction.

(3) Such senior war planners (SWP) as DD/P may establish, subject to DCI approval. Each senior war planner (SWP) will be under the direction of DD/P. His reporting channel will be via the chief of station and chief of the division to DD/P and the DCI.

4. Also there shall be maintained overseas such elements as DCI may specify for the performance and support of non-clandestine responsibilities of CIA. All such elements and the personnel thereof, unless specifically exempted by the DD/P and the other Deputy concerned

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will be under the administrative authority of the responsible station chief in the area. In the event of failure of the two Deputies to agree, the matter will be placed before the Director for decision. All foreign travel by such elements must be coordinated with the appropriate station chief, or, as may be specifically delegated by such chief, with a chief of base.

5. Communications between headquarters and field will be handled as follows:

a. All cables from headquarters to overseas stations or senior war planners will be transmitted in the name of the Director. With the exception of those items specifically excluded in paragraphs 5.b., 5.c., and 5.d., below, release by, or with the authority of, DCI, DD/P, or the appropriate Chief of the clandestine services operating division is required for all outgoing overseas cables and dispatches. The releasing authority is responsible for assuring appropriate coordination, including coordination with elements of other Deputy Directors whose interests are concerned.

b. Special indicators governing the release and transmittal of those dispatches and cables requiring limited or specialized treatment shall be issued solely by the DD/P (in appropriate instances, at the request of other Deputy Directors) in order to control the distribution and/or reduce the coordination of sensitive and specialized material. Such indicators shall clearly designate the office or offices to which such material shall be distributed and limited, including the clandestine services area division having competence for the station concerned.

c. Specific provision is hereby made for the issuance of a special indicator for DD/I use covering cables and dispatches on substantive intelligence matters not affecting or relating to clandestine operations or to

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administration. The DD/I or his duly authorized officers may release cables and dispatches falling into such category provided that the indicator appears on the communication and further provided that copies of all such communications are promptly furnished to the appropriate clandestine services operating divisions.

d. (1) Specific provision is also made for the following components of the DD/S: Finance, Audit, Security, Logistics, General Counsel, Medical, and Monetary Branch, for the use of special indicators and special releasing authorities applicable to cables and dispatches pertaining to purely administrative and technical support matters not directly affecting or relating to clandestine operations or affecting operational security or other command responsibilities of the Chief of Station or the DD/P. The DD/S is authorized to release cables and dispatches falling into such category, provided that the proper indicator appears on the communications and further provided that the copies of all such communications are promptly furnished to the DD/P or the appropriate clandestine services elements. Subject to the same restrictions as above, similar authority is also granted to the Chief of each of the DD/S components enumerated above to release cables and dispatches falling within the area of his technical jurisdiction.

(2) Where in the case of sensitive monetary transactions, sensitive security cases of staff employees, or sensitive medical cases it is felt desirable to restrict cognizance as completely as possible, permission is given to waive the above requirements for information copies of cables or dispatches, provided coordination has been effected with the DD/P personally or with a specially designated representative of the DD/P; and a further waiver is made applicable to cables and dispatches bearing purely on monetary shipments or inventories in that, for purposes of protection of funds, cable and dispatch traffic will be available for inspection by appropriate DD/P elements in lieu of actual distribution.

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(3) Specific provision is also made for the continued use of special indicators applicable to cables and dispatches pertaining to administrative and technical support matters which are the responsibility of the Office of Communications and not affecting or relating to clandestine operations or affecting operational security of other command responsibilities of the Chief of Station or the DD/P. The DD/S and/or Director of Communications may release cables and dispatches bearing these indicators, coordinating or forwarding copies of such communications to the extent desired by the appropriate elements of the clandestine services.

e. Except as specifically authorized by the DCI or DD/P normal communications between headquarters and overseas bases (as distinguished from overseas stations) will be routed through the responsible Chief of Station. Similarly, direct communications may be authorized for the exemptions covered by paragraph 4 above.

f. Field dispatches and cables to headquarters will observe the above channels for the respective types of subject matter. Cables will be addressed to the Director, in accordance with existing procedures.

6. Foreign travel by personnel of headquarters elements outside the clandestine services must be coordinated with the DD/P or his designated representative.

STANDARD

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

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Frank G. Wisner, DD/P

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Lyman B. Kirkpatrick, I.G.

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L. R. White, DD/S

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Robert Amory, DD/I

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C. F. Cabell, DDCI

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